

REMARKS

Applicants have reviewed the Office Action mailed November 3, 2004 and thank the Examiner for review of the pending claims and the indication of allowable subject matter. Regarding pending claims 1-4 and 6-20, claims 1-4 and 6-13 were rejected, claims 14-19 were withdrawn and claim 20 is allowed. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 10-19 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 2-4, 7, 9 and 20 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 7-9 and 20 will be pending. Applicants request reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

As a preliminary matter, allowed claim 20 has been amended to correspond to an amendment to the specification. Specifically, page 5, line 30 of the specification has been amended to correct the parts by weight range for the blend of peroxide and cross-linking coagents. The specification as originally filed listed the parts by weight of the peroxide and cross-linking coagents as (2-5); however, a correct parts by weight range of 6-20 should have been listed to account for the potential ranges of the specified exemplary components (i.e., Dicumyl peroxide; 1,1- bis (t-butylperoxy); 3,3,5 –trimethyl cyclohexane; and Triallyl Trimellitate).

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

1. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,366,746 to Rosencrans in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,190,088 to Lalikos et al. Claims 1, 6 and 10-13 have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 2-4 and 7 have been amended to depend from new claim 20, which is patentable over Rosencrans and Lalikos.

2. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosencrans in view of Lalikos as applied to Claims 1-4, 6 and 7, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,683,773 to Kemper. Claim 7, from which claim 8 depends, and claim 9 have been amended to depend from new claim 20, which is patentable over Rosencrans and Lalikos.

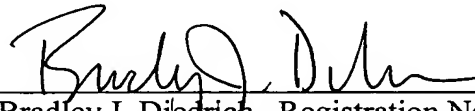
For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the undersigned believes that this case is now in condition for allowance. It is believed that no additional fees are due with respect to this paper. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this paper, permission is given to charge Deposit Account Number 50-3145, under Order No. 209593-81522, in the name of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

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